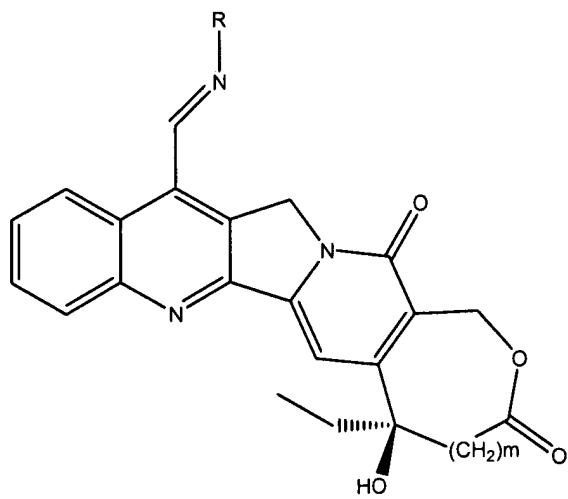
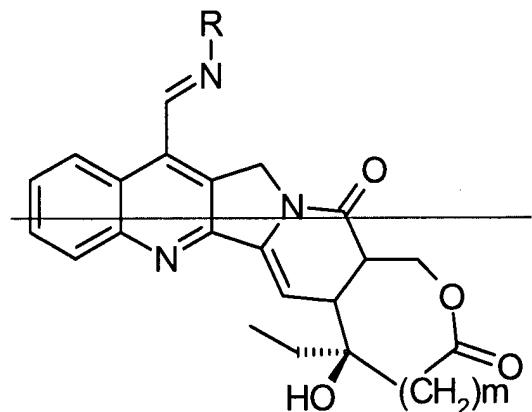


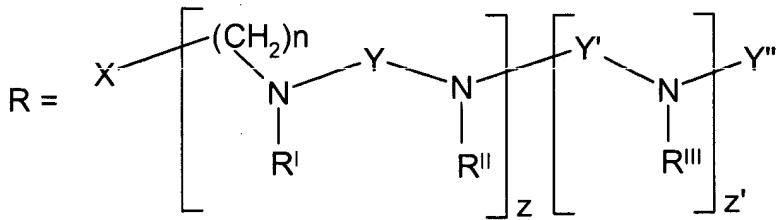
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 6, as follows:

The compounds which are the subject of the present invention have the following general formula (I):



in which



m is the number 0 or 1;

Z and Z', which can be the same or different, are an integer ranging from 0 to 2;

Y and Y', which can be the same or different, are $(CH_2)_n_1$; $(CH_2)_n_2-CH[NR^{VII}(CH_2)_n_4-NHR^I]-(CH_2)_n_3$; $CH_2-CH[CH_2-CH_2]_2-$ or $(CH_2)_n_2-N[(CH_2)_n_4-NHR^{IV}]-(CH_2)_n_3$;

Y'' is selected from the group consisting of H; cycloalkyl C₃-C₇; $(CH_2)_n_5-N[CH_2-CH_2]_2N-(CH_2)_n_6NHR^V$; $(CH_2)_n_7-CH[CH_2-CH_2]_2NR^V$;

X is O, or is a simple bond;

n-n₈, which can be the same or different, are an integer ranging from 0 to 5;

R^I, R^{II}, R^{III}, R^{IV}, and R^V, which can be the same or different, are a protective group for the nitrogen to which they are bound; CO₂R^{VI}; CO₂CH₂Ar; CO₂(9-fluorenylmethyl); $(CH_2)_n_5-NHCO_2R^V$; CH₂Ar; COAr; $(CH_2)_n_5-NHCO_2CH_2Ar$; $(CH_2)_n_5-NHCO_2-(9\text{-fluorenylmethyl})$.

R^{VI} is a straight or branched (C₁-C₆) alkyl;

R^{VII} is H or R^I-R^V;

Ar is a C₆-C₁₂ aromatic residue, such as phenyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from: halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro, -NR^{VIII}R^{IX}, where R^{VIII} and R^{IX}, which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched (C₁-C₅) alkyl, or Ar is a heterocyclic group, said heterocyclic group containing at least one heteroatom selected from a nitrogen atom, optionally substituted with a (C₁-C₅) alkyl group,

and/or oxygen and/or sulphur; said heterocycle can be substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro, -NR^{VIII}R^{IX}, where R^{VIII} and R^{IX}, which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched (C₁-C₅) alkyl, the N₁-oxides, racemic mixtures, their individual enantiomers, their individual diastereoisomers, the *E* and *Z* forms, their mixtures, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts.